

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 /124 W
-----004066 091108Z /11

R 090823Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8665
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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USMTN

DEPT PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, JA
SUBJECT: MOFA AND MITI ON TRADE FACILITATION

REF: (A) STATE 140687, (B) STATE 142267, (C) TOKYO 10094

1. SUMMARY: MOFA'S MIYAZAKI AND MITI'S HANAOKA, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS OF TRADE FACILITATION, REFLECT GOJ CONCERN WITH DEMONSTRATING PROGRESS ON ISSUES BUT UNCERTAINTY AS TO PRACTICAL PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH MINISTRIES WHICH DO NOT SEE THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IMPLICATIONS OF THEIR INTERNAL OPERATIONS. EMBASSY EXPECTS TRANSMIT COMPREHENSIVE RECOMMENDATIONS ON OUTSTANDING CASES AND STUDIES FOR HANDLING TRICKY PROBLEMS IN WHICH GOOD WILL OF MANY ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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JAPANESE SIDE MAY NOT BE ABLE OVER COME PAROCHIALISM OF OTHERS. END SUMMARY.

2. E/CMIN HAD USEFUL CONVERSATION ON TRADE FACILITATION WITH MOFA VICE MINISTER JUNE 7. E/CMIN NOTED CONSIDERABLE WASHINGTON INTEREST IN SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME TFC CASES AS REFLECTED IN CONVERSATIONS MIYAZAKI AND HANAOKA HAD HAD IN

WASHINGTON LAST WEEK. MIYAZAKI SAID HE HAD RECOGNIZED BREADTH OF INTEREST AND WANTED U.S. TO UNDERSTAND THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY SHARED OUR INTEREST AND CONCERN. HE HAD ASKED ON HIS RETURN SECOND NORTH AMERICA DIVISION TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH REVIEW. HE URGED EMBASSY TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH. HE POINTED OUT THAT SEVERAL GOJ MINISTRIES WERE NOT "TRADE ORIENTED" AND VIEWED THEIR MISSION AS HAVING NO FOREIGN TRADE IMPLICATIONS BUT RATHER DEVOTED TO PROTECTING HEALTH AND WELFARE, FOR EXAMPLE, OF JAPANESE PUBLIC. HE NOTED THAT MITI INTERVENTION WAS OFTEN RESENTED AND THAT USG WOULD SERVE ITS AIMS BETTER IF IT PROCEEDED THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY IN SOME CASES. HE SAID MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WOULD BE WILLING TO APPROACH HIS MINISTERIAL COLLEAGUES WHEN CRUCIAL DECISIONS NEEDED TO BE MADE BUT THAT FREQUENT INTERVENTIONS AT THIS LEVEL WOULD LOSE THEIR IMPACT IF RESORTED TO TOO OFTEN.

3. REGARDING THE ABBOTT LAB'S CASE, HE SAID CURRENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT MHW WOULD LIKE TO HANDLE CASE OUTSIDE TFC FORMAT. HE SAID DELICATE PROBLEMS OF INTERNAL REGULATIONS AND APPROVAL MECHANISMS MEANT THAT PROGRESS MIGHT BE SLOW AND THAT ATMOSPHERE OF CONFRONTATION MIGHT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. MHW HAS TOLD US THAT DECISION, WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE POSITIVE, WILL TAKE ANOTHER YEAR. WE NEVERTHELESS ARE CONTINUING TO PURSUE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIS CASE.

4. E/CMIN SOUGHT MIYAZAKI'S ADVICE ON UTILITY OF TSG FORUM, AS FOR EXAMPLE FOR DISCUSSION OF PHARMACEUTICALS PROBLEMS. MIYAZAKI SAID HE UNDERSTOOD USEFULNESS OF TSG AS CONSENSUS BUILDING MECHANISM BUT FELT THAT ITS USE FOR DISCUSSION OF SENSITIVE AREA AS PHARMACEUTICALS SHOULD BE PRECEDED BY VERY CAREFUL ADVANCE DISCUSSIONS.

5. LATER IN DAY E/CMIN MET WITH HANAOKA TO REVIEW HIS WASHINGTON VISIT. HIS ACCOUNTS FOLLOWED THOSE WE HAVE RECEIVED IN STATE 140687 AND STATE 142267 COVERING KATZ, BARRACLOUGH AND STR CONVERSATIONS. HE DESCRIBED EXTENSIVE CONVERSATIONS AT COMMERCE WHICH WE DESCRIBED HEREWITH SO DEPARTMENT MAY GET FLAVOR OF HOW THE JAPANESE SIDE PERCEIVED THOSE CONVERSATIONS.

6. HANAOKA SAID HE HAD POINTED OUT PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN PRESENTING MONTHLY SCORE CARD TO REPRESENTATIVE JONES' SUB-COMMITTEE, FEARING IT GIVES INACCURATELY PESSIMISTIC ACCOUNT OF TOTAL ACTIVITIES OF TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE. HE SAID HE HAD PROPOSED SPLITTING TFC

CUBMISSIONS INTO TWO CATEGORIES, ONE ON WHICH RAPID PROGRESS SEEMED LIKELY AND A SECOND ON WHICH PROGRESS, IF ANY, WAS LIKELY TO TAKE CONSIDERABLE TIME.

7. HE SAID HE HAD DESCRIBED CURRENT STATUS OF CIGARETTE PROBLEM ALONG LINES CONTAINED IN MITI LETTER TRANSMITTED TO TOKYO 10094 AND THAT MR. WEIL APPEARED TO UNDERSTAND THAT GOJ HAD DONE ALL IT COULD.

8. HANAOKA SAID HE HAD ALSO RAISED GENERAL PROBLEM OF TFC TERMS OF REFERENCE NOT BEING WHOLLY APPROPRIATE TO SOME OF THE CASES HERETOFORE RAISED. HE SAID HE FELT A DISTINCTION SHOULD BE DRAWN BETWEEN "TRADE PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES" AND INTERNAL PRACTICES OF GOJ MINISTRIES. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED CORDIS DOW CASE AS BEING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHOLLY INTERNAL MHW PROCEDURAL MATTER WHICH WAS NOT PROPER SUBJECT FOR TFC CONSIDERATION.

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OMB-01 DOE-15 /124 W

-----003670 091111Z /11

R 090823Z JUN 78
FM ANENBASSY TOKYO
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9. HANAOKA SAID HE HAD ALSO DESCRIBED MITI'S LIMITATIONS IN DEALING WITH OTHER MINISTRIES AND HAD HINTED THAT

WASHINGTON AGENCIES SHOULD NOT APPLY DOUBLE STANDARD BY ASKING MITI TO ACCOMPLISH THINGS THAT A COMPARABLE U.S. DEPARTMENT COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH. FOR EXAMPLE, NO OTHER USG AGENCY COULD INDUCE TREASURY TO CHANGE ITS STANCE ON COLOR TV DUMPING DUTIES CASE.

10. RETURNING AGAIN TO THE QUESTION OF "SCORE CARD," HANAOKA SAID HE HAD SUGGESTED THERE BE PRIOR CONSULTATION BEFORE TFC CASES ARE FORMALLY SUBMITTED SO THAT CHANCES OF SUCCESS COULD BE IMPROVED.

11. REFERRING TO CONVERSATIONS IN STATE DEPARTMENT, HANAOKA SAID HE HAD ASKED MITI'S ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUREAU TO PREPARE A REPORT ON UNTYING OF AID AND THAT HE HOPED TO FORWARD IT SOON.

12. EMBASSY WILL BE DISCUSSING ABOVE CONVERSATIONS WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHINN, EA/EP, DURING HIS VISIT HERE AND PRESENT DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS. MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO10513
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780241-0435
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO USMTN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780674/aaaacInz.tel
Line Count: 195
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1bb9bf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 140687, 78 STATE 142267, 78 TOKYO 10094
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2407781
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOFA AND MITI ON TRADE FACILITATION
TAGS: ETRD, OTRA, JA, US, MTN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1bb9bf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014